



Commonwealth of Kentucky  
Office of the Governor

**Kentucky Public Health Laboratory by the Numbers**

(Numbers are averages per year)

**3 million**

Number of tests conducted each year in the laboratory

**55,000**

Average number of initial specimens received by the lab to be screened for newborn metabolic disorders. Each specimen undergoes a minimum of 49 tests.

**153,000**

Number of infectious disease screenings and confirmations, including HIV, chlamydia, syphilis, gonorrhea, and respiratory viruses, such as influenza

**2,000**

Number of rabies tests

**7,800**

Number of tests conducted for other diseases such as viruses and various bacterial infections

**8,000**

Number of environmental tests conducted at the lab, including bioterrorism and chemical terrorism, milk, food, inorganic and organic materials and water. These tests are performed by various methods such as chromatographic techniques and molecular pulse field gel electrophoresis for fingerprinting environmental and clinical specimens during outbreaks (peanut butter, salmonella, etc.).

**52**

Number of lab employees, including a pathologist, biochemical geneticist, medical laboratory scientists, chemists, medical technologists, medical laboratory technicians, information technologists, procurement specialist and other support staff

**5**

Approximate number of independent public health laboratories in the country that currently hold accreditation from the College of American Pathologists

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